

2. Amend the paragraph at page 8, line 20 to page 9, line 4 to read:

A major advantage of the welderhead 10 of the invention is the ability to combine in a single unit, the ability for the three functions of rail pulling, flash butt welding, shearing and maintaining the "after forged" position. The horizontal plane of force of the rail pull will have a mechanical adjustment to approximately match the neutral axis of all rail sizes specified. The welderhead 10 has a rail pulling (together) ability of about 200 tons. The pulling ability will be sufficient for moving and stretching substantially all rail sections currently used in the field. It will be typically able to overcome tensile and frictional resistance of steel rail lengths of up to about one quarter to one third of a statute mile in length, as well as forging the rail ends together and maintaining that position after forging.

3. Amend the paragraph at page 13, line 1 to line 7 to read:

Fourth, the welderhead itself will pull and stretch the rail until rail ends butt welderhead automatic stop. As part of this step, the machine may re-coil by relieving pressure to upset cylinders and then, determine gap, pull force and preferably provides information to enable a go/ no-go decision to the Weld Monitor. A no-go signal disables the welding function and gives an explanation of the reason to a Weld Monitor. The mechanical functions could be performed, albeit less efficiently, without the automatic Weld Monitor function. Fifth, if necessary, the operator can release for vertical adjustment, then re-clamp and repeat step four several times.